## THE RAILWAY INTEREST.

Annual Report of the Government Commissioner.

Condition of the Various Pacific Lines on the Thirtieth of June.

A General Improvement in Business and a Satisfactory Management.

ne State of the Sinking Funds-Several Important Suggestions.

zne annual report of the commissioner of railways for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, has just been completed. The commissioner says: "As a rule the accounts of the roads are kept in a thoroughly comprehensive and business-like manner. Properly authorized members of the bureau, in conformity with the law, have made extensive trips this year to inspect the vast properties of the numerous bonded and land grant railways

coming within its jurisdiction.

A decidedly healthy improvement in construction, operation, and business has been

Steel rails are being substituted for iron as rapidly as practicable. More ties to the mile and of superior quality, better fastenings, and good ballast are being used. Bridges and buildings are not only being repaired and renewed, but generally improved or replaced

by better ones.
Embankments and cuts are being widened

grades and curvatures reduced, and general improvements made as far as practicable.

The best pattern, as to service, of locomotives is being used, and improved passenger and freight cars purchased or built. Where the financial condition of the companies admit of it, new machinery of the most improved kind is being obtained; shops, round-houses, station buildings, section and tool-houses are being constructed of a much improved and superior character. The unprecedented construction of railways during the present year deserves very thoughtful consideration. The Pacific com-panies are rapidly extending their lines, some through sections of country which are and will remain for years to come of little value, but which extensions are for the most part necessary, and secure the trade of rapidly-de-veloping sections, or to make through connections with important distributing points which will ultimately be of great value to the main

REPAYMENT OF INTEREST.

The report shows the amount of money applicable to repayment of interest," five per cent. If net carnings," and sinking fund requirements derived from transportation receipts to be \$18,804,044.67.

The total cash payments to December 31, 1881, which have been required from the companies, in addition to the retention of the entire compensation for services, are as follows: 
 Central Pacific.
 \$1,282,264.44

 Central Branch Union Pacific.
 1,958.77

 Union Pacific.
 901,837.03

Total ..... 2,186,055.24 The Central Pacific railroad company has deposited the above amount of \$1,282,264.44 in the treasury, but the balance of \$901,837.03, due from the Union Pacific, which owns and operates the Kansas Pacific railway as one of its divisions, has not been finally adjusted, ow-ing to items for new construction and new equipments being in dispute.

equipments being in dispute.

DUE THE GOVERNMENT.

The total indebtedness of the several subsidized Pacific railways to the United States on June 30, 1882, was as follows:

Union Pacific: Principal.......\$33,539,512 60 Accrued interest... 30,080,998 14 Central Pacific:

itral Pacific: \$27,855,680 00 Principal-...... \$27,855,680 00 Accrued interest... 24,285,133 81 52,140,813 81 

3,043,767 89 3,101,808 26 Total..... TOTAL CREDIT. 121,906,900 10

Transportation services performed and money paid into the treasury : | Holley | S12,360,603 35 | Central Pacific | S12,360,603 35 | Central Pacific | 6,934,663 17 | Sioux City and Pacific | 55,278 57 | Central Brauch Union Pacific | 131,596 76 |

SINKING FUND INVESTMENTS. In treating of the subject of sinking fund accounts (which amounted on June 30 last to \$2,716,221,68) the commissioner says that it was not forescen at the date of passage of the act that the premium on United States bonds would rise to the degree it hat, nor were the late conversions of bonds expected. The last investment was made April 6, 1881, at a precision as high as 35 per cent and on June 30. investment was made April 6, 1881, at a premium as high as 35 per cent, and on June 30 last there remained uninvested \$935,328.52, which amount has since been largely increased. The fund has evidently not accomplished the result anticipated, and since April, 1881, may be regarded as having practically failed for want of suitable investment. In view of the low rate of interest returned from the investments made by the serviciary of the treasure.

ments made by the secretary of the treasury, the commissioner says:

"I deem it my duty to recommend that section 3 of the act of May 7, 1878, be so amended as to authorize the secretary of the treasury to invest the sinking funds in the first mortgage bonds of the companies, or such bonds as have been issued to them by the United States, or in other good and sufficient securities, and to convert the bonds now held by the treasures of the United States in said by the treasurer of the United States in said sinking funds into money at the market rates and reinvest the same in like securities. "As many doubts have been expressed as to

ments made by the secretary of the treasury

the ability of the companies to meet their indebtedness at maturity, and as to the effi-ciency of the provisions for a sinking fund, I deem it proper to suggest whether it may not be practicable and highly desirable, with the consent of the companies, to change the form of their indebtedness from a running book account into a settlement and actual delivery account into a settlement and actual delivery of interest-bearing bonds for the amount found to be due on a convenient day, say July I, 1883, at which time one-half of the interest will have been paid by the United States. Let the ascertained amount be divided into say one hundred semi-annual installments, each to be represented by a redemption bond, one payable each six months, together with interest upon the whole unpaid remainder of the debt, the lien to remain as it is.

"With a view to devise the best possible security for the advances made by the government, I have ventured to make the suggestions:

"First—That if the sinking fund is to be continued, the discretion of the secretary of the treasury should be enlarged as to the in-

vestments of the fund. Second-That congress consider the practibility of committing the present book-account indebtedness for securities having the same lien and of fixed amount and payable at fixed

Upon the topic of railway rates, which is cated at length, the report says:
"The adjustment of railway rates is one of the most difficult and delicate questions of modern times, and it is specially complicated in the United States, where every trunk line runs through several states, each independent within its own jurisdiction and jealous of all within its own jurisdiction and jealous of all interference by the general government. The enormous extent of this interest and the rapidity of its growth, both in the increase of mileage and tonnage, demands that its relations to the public shall be under some judicious legal control. What it shall be, and to what extent, are questions upon which the most experienced experts differ, and as to which there is much prompts nisamurchen.

on funded debts, \$128,887,002; for dividends, \$33,344,200. They employed in operating the reads 1,500,00 persons, besides 400,000 in construction, or a total of 1,500,000 employes, or about one thirty-second part of our population, estimated at 53,200,000.

Interests so vast, and so necessarily and vitally bound up in the presperity of the people, can only be dealt with with the utmost caution and upon the fullest information. The power of congress over the whole subject can hardly be questioned. The supreme cent of Illinois concedes it, and the decisions of the supremeeur of the United States seem to render it indisputable. The universal use and absolute dependence of all interstate commerce upon railroads give constant rise to new questions dependence of all interstate commerce upon railroads give constant rise to new questions under new conditions, which only experience can properly solve. It would seem that true wisdom would hasten slowly in dealing with this great problem, seeking the fullest information as the only true basis for wise legislation. The solution must lie in the just application of the laws of trade and commerce, with such authoritative regulation by law as will hold abuses in check, and this power can be derived only from federal law of universal application. I have felt it to be my duty to call attention to this subject, although I have not thought it appropriate to discuss the question in detail.

tion in detail.

"I therefore respectfully recommend that a commission be appointed to take into consideration the whole question, and report to congress the facts need sary for intelligent and efficient action upon the subject."

The commissioner next speaks of the unnecessary and dangerons dissimilarity of railway signals, and recommends the adoption of a uniform system, and this subject occupies the remainder of the report, which concludes with a commendation of the general efficiency of the employes in the office. of the employes in the office.

Gospel Temperance Meeting. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union held a grand meeting in Masonic hall yesterday at 3 p. m. Mrs. Roach, the president, conducted the service, and, after prayer by Mrs. Cohen and a short scripture reading, intro-duced Rev. George E. Hite, of Wheeling, W. Va., who made a most eloquent and stirring address, telling of the great magnitude of the temperance question and its constant agitation in his state, and gave cheering words in referin his state, and gave cheering words in reterence to the probability of the submission of "prohibition" as an amendment to the state constitution at the winter's session by the state legislature. The effective prayers of the women of Annapolis on election day in Maryland was the theme of an earnest, soul-stirring talk by Mr. Lee.

Manager Snelbaker announces an extraordinary sensation this week in the persons of Profs. C. M. and J. E. Kennedy, whose reputations as mesmerists and psychologists are said to be world wide. These gentlemen are far beyond the ordinary attractions, and will no doubt induce the attendance of those in-terested in the subjects of which they are expo-nents. In addition to these there will be seen Beame and Gliday, sketch artists; the Parker sisters the beautiful due of some and dance: sisters, the beautiful duo of song and dance: the Quaker City quartette; and the Nac Nac dancers. With such an array of talent it is but reasonable to suppose that the Comique will be crowded each night during the entire week. There will be the usual Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday matinees.

Garfield Fair Echoes.

The exact amount realized at the Garfield fair has not yet been ascertained, and it will probably be some time before a final settlement will be reached.

The clerks in the general land office who subscribed \$282.40 to secure the watch offered for the most popular chief of bureau at the Garfield fair are in quite a state of excitement because no watch is forthcoming. The Lau-caster watch company took umbrage be-cause they were omitted from the official catalogue and wouldn't give any watch. Col. Corbin agreed to get a watch from Tiffany or Galt, but at last accounts no watch had been

Dr. Hall's Lecture.

The lyceum lecture of Rev. John Hall, of New York city, to-morrow evening at the Congregational church on "The Scriptures and the Sciences," was yesterday morning commended to many congregations by their several pastors. The people of Washington have so high an appreciation of the wisdom and character of Dr. Hall that they will be med and character of Dr. Hall that frows in glad to hear him upon a topic that grows in interest daily. Tickets for the course of six 12,369,603 35 6,004,605 17 15,275 7 131,596 76 12 12 12 131,596 76 12 131,596 76

Dashaway Reform Club.

A large and intelligent 'audience assembled in Odd Fellows' hall last evening, on the occasion of the usual Sunday meeting of this club, sion of the usual Sunday meeting of this club, the president of the club, Mr. C. M. Nye, in the chair. Addresses were delivered by C. M. Nye, Bud Eagleston, Mr. Nugent, president of a reform club of Pittsburg, and William Boyd. Prof. C. C. Burlew had charge of the musical part of the exercises, assisted by Mrs. Daniels, William Watson, H. G. Isel, M. A. Swingle, and C. E. Hodgkin.

A Prolific Policeman

Lieut. Kelly, of the seventh precinct station, wore a smile of considerable expanse on his kindly face yesterday, and inquiry re-vealed the fact that No. 14 had arrived—a bouncing girl of twelve pounds avoirdupois. Mother and child are both doing well,

She Broke Her Leg.

About 6:30 yesterday morning an old white woman named Mary Gleason, aged 60 years, fell on the sidewalk on I street, between North Capitol and First streets, and broke her right leg. She was carried to Providence hospital in the police ambulance.

The Washington Monument.

When the weather moderates sufficiently to enable the men to work eight feet more of stone (four courses) will be added to the Washington monument before housing over the shaft for the winter. The shaft is now 334 feet in height from the base.

A Man Falls in a Fit.

About 10 o'clock yesterday morning John Ansley, a white man, fell in a fit near the patent office. Sergeant Heffner and Officer Jones took him to the emergency hospital, where Dr. Markriter gave the necessary medi-

A Row in the County.

About 8 a. m. Saturday an altereation took place between two colored men, named James Johnson and Martin Brown, on Columbia road, in the county. Johnson fired three shots at Brown, but none of them took effect. Both of them were arrested

. WEST WASHINGTON.

Street lamps will be lighted to-night at 5:10 nd extinguished at 5:15 a. m. High tide Monday, December 11: 8:06 a. m.

High tide Monday, December 11: 8:06 a. m. and 8:26 p. m.

About 2 o'clock Sunday morning a burglar entered the house of Mr. Patrick Callahan, living at 1830 Thirty-third street, by forcing open a rear window of the basement and made his way to the bed-room of a son of Mr. Callahan in the third story, who, being awakened by his movements in the room, gave an alarm, frightening off the burglar, who, in his hasty retreat, left his hat and shoes outside of the window through which he had entered. Nothing was missed from the house.

Eliza McLaughlin, white, 43 years old, living at 32:36 M street, was sunt to the hospital yesterday through the sanitary office of the Metropolitan police.

The pulpit of St. John's church was filled yesterday by Rev. John H. Chew, in the absence of the rector, Dr. Lindsay, caused by a slight indisposition.

Notwithstanding the inclement state of the

THE WEEK'S WORK.

The House and Senate Programmes for the Next Six Days

Evidences of Industrious Intentions That Surprise the Old-Timers.

The session of the house to-day, after the usual call of states for the introduction of bills, will be devoted to business of the District under the rule which assigns the second and fourth Mondays of each month for that

There are two conflicting "special orders' for Tuesday's session—the bill to provide for for Tuesday's session—the bill to provide for the construction of a congressional library building, which comes over from last June, and the bill reported Saturday by Mr. Kas-son, from the committee on civil-service re-form. Both of these measures are set down for consideration "after the morning hour of Tuesday, and from day to day thereafter, until disposed of, subject only to revenue and ap-propriation bills."

The library bill, if given the precedence, to which it is entitled by priority of assign-

The indrary bill, if given the precedence, to which it is entitled by priority of assignment, will undoubtedly be disposed of during the day's session; but the civil-service bill, whenever reached, may be expected to give rise to a long debate and will probably be laid aside from time to time in order to admit of prompt action on appropriation bills as fast as they are prepared.

The westal supreparation bill is to be re-

as they are prepared.

The postal appropriation bill is to be reported to-day, and the committee now talk of calling it up for action Wednesday, and say they will report the military academy and fortification bills before the close of the week.

Wednesday has been assigned for the consideration of sundry bills reported from the ways and means committee relating to the administration of the customs and excise laws; but as this assignment is supplemented by a continuing order amplicable to any other by a continuing order applicable to any other day thereafter, they will probably not be

Pressed.

The committee in charge of the civil-service bill expect to secure the floor some time on Tuesday, and, in case they are successful, the remainder of the week will be devoted to its discussion, interspersed with action on one

or more of the appropriation bills.

The senate, in the morning hour, will have the political-assessment resolution as unfinished business; but there is no prospect of any action upon it as early as 1 o'clock, when the bankruptey bill comes up as the regular order.
The senate has agreed to take a final vote
upon this measure before adjourning today. The contest between the adherents of

the judiciary committee's bill and the sup-porters of the "Lowell" substitute is so stoutly maintained and the number of senators who question the desirability of any natural legislation on the subject of bankruptcy is so considerable that there seems to be a strong probability that the whole matter will be disposed of to-day by an indefinite post-

The movement for the defeat of both of the pending measures is strengthened by a cur-rent agreement that it will be impossible dur-ing the present short session to obtain action on this subject in the house. The programme for the remainder of the week in the senate

lor the remainder of the week in the senate is as yet uncertain.

Mr. Pendleton has given notice of his intention to call up the civil-service bill as soon as the bankruptey question shall have been disposed of, and the probabilities favor the success of his motion; but Mr. Sewell has also announced a determination to endeavor to bring the Fitz-John Porter bill before the senate committee on appropriations will, within senate committee on appropriations will, within senate committee on appropriations will, within a few days, be ready to brush aside any and

senate committee on appropriations will, within a few days, be ready to brush aside any and all other business in the senate with the Indian appropriation bill, and others of the regular annual series will quickly follow.

It is said by the oldest employes at the capitol that Saturday's session of the house and senate were the first that have ever, within the period of their recollection, been held on a Saturday in the first week of a session of congress. It has been the uniform practice for gress. It has been the uniform practice for gress. It has been the union practice for many years to adjourn over from Friday (or more frequently from Thursday) until the fol-lowing Monday until the sessions have been well advanced, and the fact that no motion was made last week in either house for any tuch purpose is regarded as a significant indi-cation that the present session is to be devoted

CONSIDERED IN COURT.

Suits Begun or Tried in the Local Courts-The Record.

DISSOLTTION OF PARTNERSHIP. In the equity court Saturday a bill was filed by Messes Guinn, Hart & R. H. Guinnin against George E. Day, comprising the firm of Guinnip, Day & Co., dry-goods merchants, No. 820 Seventh street northwest, praying for an account, injunction, and the appointment of a receiver to settle up the business. The com-plainants' bill states that the firm is not embarrassed, but that Day has neglected the interests of the business; that he has been con-tinuously absent from his place when he was most needed, and that his action is a hindrance and embarrassment to their interests. Judge Hagner passed an order fixing the argument on the injunction to be heard to-day.

DAMAGES. In the circuit court Saturday the case of Asa P. Knight against S. S. Blackford—an action for \$10,000 damages for defamation of char-acter—came up before Judge MacArthur. The plaintiff sues for damages sustained by reason of the defendant having made certain statements and written letters which led to the plaintiff being removed from his position as clerk in the sixth auditor's office by Secre-tary Sherman. The defendant filed a demurrer and was granted leave to amend his plea.

NEW SULTS. On Saturday B. J. Darneille filed a bill for divorce for Kate E. Cole from William H. Cole. They were married here in July, 1871, and the plaintiff charges the defendant with being guilty of gross acts of eruelty, committing adultery, drunkenness, desertion, and non-support. She asks to be allowed to have two support. She asks to be allowed to have pos-

session of her child.

Lena Brown has entered suit on the law side of the court against Belva A. Lockwood to recover the sum of \$285.73. She alleges that the money was given to the defendant to pay the interest on a note held by Maria C. Page, and that she failed to pay it over.

GENERAL NOTES.

The will of William Williams has been filed with the register. He bequeathes his entire estate, real and personal, to his wife, Lucinda Williams.

Williams.

In order to provide more accommodations for spectators in the criminal court room during the progress of the star-route trial, the criminal's dock has been removed. Two additional platforms have been erected for the

Circuit Court—Justice MacArthur—Brown vs. Chipman; demurrer suctained. Truesdale vs. Shi,hard; same setton. United States ex rel. Windsor vs. Johnson; demurrer to defendant's three plens sustained. District of Calumbia vs. Johnson; bill of exceptions signed. Hauson vs. Branson, Brown vs. Lucas; causes consolidated. Waters vs. Hutchins; judgment by default. Court in Binne—The Chief Justice, Justices Cax and James.—Assignment for to-day—Nos. 47, 48, 54, 58, 69, 00, 61, 62, 63, and 64.

Byinty Court—Instite Hagner.—Davis vs. Distiner; relaxation of costs ordered. Downman vs. Kelly, petition dismissed and sales confirmed. Bandali vs. Reed; trustee directed to accept compromise. Gunnip vs. Day; hearing of injunction fixed for Monday. Adjourned until to-day.

"Good Words for a Neighbor," A provoking accident in the press-room of

our four-page neighbor on yesterday morning caused the remarkable distigurement of one of its inside pages, which every one of its eight-page constituents must have noticed. It seems that one of the pressmen had carelessly left his lunch basket on the press where it was entirely overlooked during the hurry and dicious legal control. What it shall be, and to what extent, are questions upon which the most experienced experis differ, and as to which there is much popular misapprehension."

It is estimated by Mr. Henry V. Poor that there are now in the United States not less than 104.813 miles of railway, which, at the low estimate of \$25,000 per mile, has cost over \$2,600,000,000. They have transported within the last year 350,000,000,000 transported until the machinery was in motion. Most unfortunately it was ground between the rollers in the exact place where association was quite large, and the services were of a highly interesting nature.

Mr. Frank Baden left has night for Dayton, Olio, to accept a position at that place in the Mutual Union telegraph office.

Mr. Frank Baden left has night for Dayton, Olio, to accept a position at that place in the Mutual Union telegraph office.

To steal an umbrella is at last a crime. But if a man steals a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup to cure his cough, can it be called a newspaper office, and it is hoped will between the rollers in the exact place where it had been intended to insert a magnificent steel engraving of Col. Robert G. Ingersoll. An effort was made to stop "the d-d" (the four-page editor style) this means demeralized) press, but it was in a particularly ugly hunor, and refused to "let up" for an instant until the entire edition was worked off. This is probably one of the most remarkable accidents ever known in a newspaper office, and it is hoped will

satisfactorily account for the minee-pie expression which nobody ever saw before in the great orator's countenance. This explanation should lead Col. Ingersoll to reconsider his intention to bring an action for damages against the four-page concern.

THE COST OF NEW ROADS. What the Building of the "Nickel Plate" Has Demonstrated.

Bendstreet's. A few words more about the Nickel Plate will be in order here. If there be one thing more than another which the building of this line has demonstrated, it is the utter fallacy of the idea that parallel roads can be built to the old-established lines at one-half their present capitalization. The thing cannot be done. It is doubtful if these old roads, with all their watered capitals, could be duplicated to-day for anything less than nine-tenths of their bond and stock debt. It costs about as their bond and stock debt. It costs about as much to build a car or locomotive now as ever it did, so that little or nothing can be saved on the enormous item of the new road's equipment. That cost, therefore, is the same for the new and the old road. But the difference in favor of the old road when it comes to right of way and land damages is enormous. The rise in the value of land makes it impossible for the new road to get the ground to lay its rails upon, and, above all, to build its stations, at anything like the figure the old road did. Being first on the ground years back, the old road bought property at the low price which real estate sold before the advent of a railroad caused it to erty at the low price which real estate sold before the advent of a railroad caused it to rise in value; and the growth of population since has been steadily augmenting this. The old road twenty or twenty-five years ago might have bought its land by the acre; the new road coming in to-day would have to buy it by the foot, for where were only scattered farmhouses villages have grown up, villages have houses villages have grown up, villages have grown to towns, towns to cities, and cities have doubled and quadrupled in population. In one small town in Ohio, through which an old road passes, the Nickel Plate builders would, it was found, have had to pay \$500,000 for lands which the old road had bought when the town was represented by a blacksmith's shop and a grocery store. It may be said that the Nickel Plate has been built from Baffaloto Chicago heside the Lake Shore, for the Nickel Plate has been built from Buffalo to Chicago, beside the Lake Shore, for \$19,000,000 of bonds and \$50,000,000 of stock, while the Lake Shore has the same amount of stock and a bonded debt of \$40,000,000. These figures in themselves would seem to disprove the preceding statements; but they vanish as arguments property they what seek the statements is the statements. against them when you inquire what each corporation has got for its money. Between the equipment of the Lake Shore road and the Nickel Plate there is no comparison. The latter would have to spend several millions more ter would have to spend several millions more to equal that of the Lake Shore, but more duplicated by forgery, and turned into the than this are the terminal facilities. These are the costly necessaries. A road with good terminal facilities can do business better, cheaper and more expeditiously than another with poor ones. Terminal facilities are the important things in these days, and their cost is enormous. A road may be built, we will be recommended to effect implicated are David Securior of the compared to the control of the contro with poor ones. Terminal facilities are the important things in these days, and their cost is enormous. A road may be built, we will say, for \$6,000,000 between two important cities; but when it comes to getting the ground for terminal facilities in them the ad-dition of two million more, perhaps a sum in excess of this, may have to be made to the cost of the road, though possibly only a mile added to its total mileage. The Nickel Plate road has no terminal facilities in Buffalo or Chicago. The Lake Shore has them in both, of a value of millions. The latter road, with its branches, sidings and feeders, has a mile-age of over eleven hundred miles. The Nickel Plate has a straight line, and no more, of 521 miles. Nothing but the shrewdness of its builders in selecting a geographical position for their line where it would be an object for several large corporations to acquire it, brought them to a successful end with their enter-prise. As it was, the financial resources of the syndicate, great as they were, were put to a severe strain, and the general impression in Wall street is that they had too narrow an escape to make them very ready to embark in another such venture. Talk about paralleling old roads has died out. The West Shore road, which was started years ago as a rival to the New York Central, has been on the verge of utter collarse. Fortunately for its promoters them to a successful end with their enter-New York Central, has been on the verge of utter collapse. Fertunately for its promoters, they have succeeded lately in getting enough money to finish the road; but when it is done its capitalization will not be much if any less than that of the New York Central, and the men who lent the money have taken a big risk any way one puts it. The ground of their confidence is the same as that which the Nickel Plate people had—that the geographical neighting of the road will conned a division

MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD. Amounts Estimated as Required for New Buildings in the Various Districts.

The school board held another special meeting Saturday afternoon to consider the report of the building committee in regard to the amounts needed for new school buildings. After a general discussion, the following majority report of the committee was unani-mously adopted.

mously adopted.

Resolved 1. That in the opinion of this board the urgent necessities of the public schools require the erection, during the next fiscal year, of school buildings, as follows: One eight-room buildings in the first school division, \$23,000; two eight-room buildings in the second school division, \$20,000; one eight-room buildings in the school division, \$23,000; two buildings and nunce in the county, \$10,000; one eight-room building in Georgeiown, for the colored schools, \$25,000; total, \$130,000.

 That it would be a measure of economy to erect more school buildings and purchase more sites than those named above. The offices of secretary to the school board and secretary to the superintendent were united, and the salary fixed at \$1,200.

Local Items.

The Potomac is frozen solid from Analostan island up the river. This is the earliest freezing of the river for many years; in fact, the memory of the oldest inhabitant is neces-

the memory of the oldest inhabitant is necessary to reach the date.

The funeral of Mrs. Smith, of Baltimore, sister of Assistant Chief Drew of the fire department, takes place to-day at 3 o'clock from the Baltimore and Ohio depot to the Congressional cemetery.

The police made forty-eight arrests during the twenty four bours ending at 7 a. m. years.

the twenty-four hours ending at 7 a. m. yes

Alexandria Affairs.

Mr. Gilbert J. Cox has been appointed to the position in the office of the Vir-ginia Midland rallway made vacant by the resignation of Capt. R. F. Knox, who has been appointed book-keeper in the Citizens' Na-tional bank tional bank.

The annual meeting of the Society of Old Staderts of St. John's academy will be held to-night, and measures will be taken to celebrate the semi-centennial anniversary of the institution, which will occur next year.

In nost of the churches in this city collec-tions vere yesterday taken up for the benefit of the infirmary, and a handsome amount was realizel.

Thre frame houses on Fairiax street were burner on Saturday morning, and, but for the energetic efforts of the fire department, a seriom conflagration would have resulted.

The schooner Emerson Roakes, Captain C.
H. Maston, cleared from this port Saturday loaded with cooperage, by Messrs, F. A. Reed & Co. for Matanass, Cuba. Her cargo con-sisted of 4,000 shooks and 3,000 bundles of hoons. The schooner Jefferson Borden is now at the wharf also loading cooperage for Hav-ana, and the schooner John Bird is expected here son for the same purpose.

To Consumptives.

"Goden Medical Discovery" is a concentrated, potent alterative, or blood-cleansing remedy, that wins golden opinions from all who use it for any humor, from the common pimple blotch, or eruption, to the formidable

THE POLICE SYSTEM.

What the Committee of Citizens Propose to Have Done by Congress.

A member of the committee appointed at the meeting of citizens held last week to take action in regard to the detective and police force of the district said last night that a meetforce of the district said last night that a meeting of the committee would be held during the
present week. As the result of soveral informal conferences the committee is of the opinion
that the proper method of correcting existing evils will be to lay the charges that have
been made before the grand jury during the
present term of the court, and also to present
all the facts connected with the allegations
that have been made by William P. Wood and
others exhecting most the intervity of the that have been made by William P. Wood and others reflecting upon the integrity of the police and detective force to congress. Thus far nothing has come to the knowledge of the committee "officially" that reflects on the personnel of the force, though there are good grounds for an investigation of the officers in charge of it. It is intimated that among other things the constitute will observe are the things the committee will advocate are the abolition of the present system, new appoint-ments for major and superintendent, and one or two lieutenants, and the revival of the board of police commissioners, so as to divorce board of police commissioners, so as to divorce thed strict government from any control of the police force. Members of the committee have had interviews with O'Leary and Mur-phy, who are now confined in the district jail, but do not attach any great weight to their statements, and are strongly of the opinion that these two sharpers are only figuring to obtain immunity for themselves. The result of the committee's investigation satisfy the members that while the resource of the present force. committee's investigation satisfy the members that, while the personnel of the present force is excellent, there are several cases of incompetency, or worse, at police headquarters, and that at least one member of the detective force has been "crooked" for years past. During the recent meeting of the committee, it is said, William P. Wood was descanting at length upon the corruption of the detective and delegant that he could put his hands upon the parties who had worked a sneak-thief job upon a promi-nent real estate firm. A member of the firm informed Mr. Wood that if he would make his words good he would give him a check for \$500 as soon as his work was accomplished.

The City of Louisville Robbed. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 10 .- The city authorities have discovered an alleged robbery of not less than \$60,000 in the year 1879, said to have oc curred in the tax-collector's office in connection with some one in the assessor's office. The investigation into city finances has been privately conducted, and all the details have not transpired. It is alleged that thousands of dollars have been collected, and returns made to the bookkeeper of only hundreds, and that tax bills amounting to \$13,000 were \$100,000. The officers implicated are David Ferguson, formerly tax collector, now collector of back taxes, and Capt. George W. Levi, formerly deputy assessor, now assistant chief of the fire department. The entries on the assessors books which led to suspicion are in Lewis's handwriting, but he claims to have made no entries except by order of his superiors. The affair causes excitement in view of the good standing of the parties concerned and because further important developments are expected.

Want Pay for the Damages. ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 10,-A peaceful demonstration of several thousand of the poorer stration of several thousand of the poorer members of the foreign colony here was made to-day before the consulates of the great powers to protest against delay in the payment of indemnity for losses sustained during the bombardment of Alexandria. Nearly all the consuls promised to send telegrams to their respective governments representing the demands of the people. The French agent warmly sympathized with the poor applicants. He expressed apprehension that long delay in the payment of the indemnity would cause serious disturbances among the lower classes. The English consul is absent. Ocean Steamer Arrivals.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—Devon from Bristol, Gladidus from Newcastle, Germanic from

risk any way one puts it. The ground of their confidence is the same as that which the Nickel Plate people had—that the geographical position of the road will compel a division of business with the Vanderbilt roads. We may put it down as a fact that speculative caterprise hereafter will seek other channels than that of attempting to duplicate old lines with roads to be built at half their capitalization. Experiment has demonstrated that it cannot be done.

Liverpool.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 10.—British Prince from New York.

CADIZ, Dec. 9.—Habana from Baltimore.

HAVRE, Dec. 9.—Le Chatalier from Baltimore.

Liverpool.

CADIZ, Dec. 9.—Le Chatalier from Baltimore.

Liverpool.

CADIZ, Dec. 9.—Mariner from New Orleans, Thancmore from Baltimore.

GIRLALTAR, Dec. 9.—Nio from Charleston for Sebastopol.

Destroyed by Fire.

New York, Dec. 10.—The cooper-shop of John Gitz, on East Sixty-fourth street, was burned to-day. Loss, \$15,000. Amssuurry, Mass., Dec. 10.—The old cath-olic church was burned to-day. Loss, \$20,000;

GINGINNATI, Dec. 10.—James H. Hurin's flour-mill was partly burned to-day. Loss, \$20,000; two-thirds covered by insurance. Iowa Elections.

DES MOINES, Dec. 9.—The total vote for secretary of state at the last election was as follows: Hall, republican, 149,052; Walker, democrat, 112,180; Gaston, greenbacker, 30,817, with a number scattering. H 36,871; majority over all, 5,704. Hall's plurality, A Fire and Panic at the Sturtevant House.

New York, Dec. II.—About 1:30 a.m. a fire broke out in the kitchen of the Sturtevant house, and was extinguished in ten minutes without much damage. A panic arose among the guests, but as far as could be learned no

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New Year's Cards V. G. FISCHER. 529 FIFTEEFTH ST.,

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We shall open our Large Stock of CHRISTMAS CARDS

MONDAY, NOV. 13,

offered in the city, and we cardially invite our friends and patrons to inspect them, as well as the many nov-elties we have received for our Holiday Trade. We have already received and are receiving daily a beautiful assortinent of

> BOOKS of every description and price.

WM. H. MORRISON, 475 Pennsylvania avenue.

Price Bulletin for the Next Two Weeks:

LANSBURGH & BRO.,

420, 422, and 424

Seventh Street.

At 10 Cents. Five cases Wool Filling Fancy Dress Goods, value, 15 cents. At 12} Cents.

Five cases Wool Filling Fancy Dress Goods,

value, 25 cents.

At 11 Cents. Twelve cases Plain Colored Cashmere, value, 15 cents, At 15 Cents.

Six cases Brocaded Dress Goods, value, 30 cents. At 121 Cents.

Eight cases 30-inch wide dark Rubans, good value, 25 cents. At 15 Cents.

Twelve cases beautiful High-Colored Plaids, value, 25 cents. At 18 Cents. One case beautiful Steel-Grey Mixtures, value,

25 cents.

At 20 Cents. Two cases beautiful Dress Goods, assorted, value, 35 cents. At 25 Cents.

Three cases 40-inch wide Shoada Cloth, value, At 25 Cents.

Five cases 45-inch wide Colored Cashmere, value, 45 cents. At 374 Cents. Six cases 45-inch wide Plaid Dress Goods, actual value, 75 cents.

At 45 Cents. Three cases 40-inch wide All-Wool Cashmerc, value, 60 cents, At 50 Cents.

Three cases 40-inch wide All-Wool Cashmere, value, 65 cents. At 50 Cents. Two cases 44-inch with All-Wool Shoada,

At 621 Cents. Two cases 44-inch wide All-Wool Cashmere, value, 872 conts. At 75 Cents.

Two cases 44-inch wide All-Woot Cashmere,

value, 75 cents.

value, \$1.00. We have just opened fifty pieces five-quarters wide th-Wool Biarrits, in steel-mixed and other dark index, at 55 cents; actual value, §1. One case Billiard Cloth—the finest and heaviest One case Killaro Coola-The linest and heaviest imported—in all the leading shades, at \$1.15\cdot value \$1.50. Also 75 French Cloth Blobes, reduced to \$1\cdot from \$1\cdot S. One case Cashmeres, 40-inch wide, in cream and all the light opens shades, at 50 cents. One case All-Wool French Dress Goods, in stripes, dark colors 75 cents; value, \$1.25. Thirty pieces 45-inch wide Colored Ottoman, in all the dark shades, warranted all wool and slik, at \$1.25; value, \$1.75.

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420, 422, and 424 Seventh Street.

The grandest building south of New York. Prices Down!

FIRST-CLASS CLOTHING!

THE PRICES AT THE

MISFIT STORE. Corner Tenth and P Streets. have been the lowest in the city. The proof of it is that our sales are constantly increasing, and were never as large as now. Still we have made some very large purchases lately in a dult market for each

PARTIAL LIST OF PRICES, \$3 for Suits for Boys from 4 to 11 years, worth \$5. \$10 for a Melton Overcoat, worth \$16, \$13 for a Melton Overcoat, silk faced, worth \$18 #s for a Roy's (12 to 17) Melton Overcoat, worth \$13. \$5 for a good Business Suit, worth \$12, \$7 for a Chinchilla Overcoat, worth \$12.

57 for a Chinchilla Overcoat, worth \$12. \$22 for a Satin-Lined Fur Chinchilla Overcoat reduced from \$27, worth \$45. \$20 for a fine Chinchilla Prince Albert StyleOvercoat; would be cheap at \$45, \$15 for a Black Diagonal Overcoat, worth \$25. \$16 for a fine English Melton Silk-Faced Overcoat for youths, worth \$25.

for youths, worth \$2. \$1 for a pair of Pants, worth \$5. \$3 for a full Dress Suit (swallow-tall coat), worth \$55, \$15 for a fine Calachilla Overcoat, worth \$30, \$30 for a beautiful Black Corkscrew Suit for youths, worth \$35. \$15 for a Black Broadcloth Suit, worth \$40,

\$15 for a Black Broadcloth Sult, worth \$40, \$9 for a Light-weight Overcont, worth \$12, \$10 for a good Business Sult, worth \$13, \$16 for a Boy's (12 to 17) Sult, worth \$10, \$17 for a good Ulster, worth \$10, \$17 for a splendid Ulster, worth \$10, \$19 for a splendid Ulster, worth \$10, \$20 for a fine Beaver Overcoat, in blue, black, \$10 for an All-wood Black Diagonal Sult, worth \$25, \$16 for an All-wood Black Diagonal Sult, worth \$25, \$15 for an All-wood Chinchilla Ulster, worth \$25, \$15 for an All-wood Chinchilla Ulster, worth \$25, \$15 for a fine pair Pants, worth \$2,

Our Motto-No trouble to show goods, Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded,

THE MISFIT STORE Corner Tenth and F Streets.

OUR STOCK OF WINTER SUITS IS INEX-haustible in variety and styles. IN SACK SUITS WE CAN SHOW STYLES that no other house in the city has. In FROCK SUITS WE HAVE A LINE OF Diagonals, Worsteds, Cheviots, &c. They are made equal to ordered work. IN YOUTHS SUITS WE LAY E THE NOB-IN BOYS SUITS WE HAVE A LINE THAT we take a pride in showing to the public. IN CHILDREN'S SUITS OUR STOCK IS IM-

IN PALL-WEIGHT OVERCOATS WE HAVE from \$6 to \$40, slik and satin-lined. WE WILL BE PLEASED TO SHOW ANY hady or gentleman through our establishment, whether you wish to purchase or not. WE DO BUSINESS ON THE ONE-PRICE system—all garments marked in plain figures. In BUYING GOODS AT OUR ESTABLISH-ment you cannot go wrong on your purchase, as we refund purchase money if goods do not ill or prove unsatisfactory.

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guess, French Insuerry, and hange made underwear,
and all dress-reform goeds, for which Miss Humry heade agent. N. B.—French, German, and Spanish spoken.